

## Immunization recommendations during a flood event

Although no specific vaccinations are recommended for flood events, Public Health officials recommend that everyone—general public, health care providers, and first responders—maintain their routine vaccinations in accordance with Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. By staying up to date with recommended vaccinations everyone is better prepared for emergencies. In particular, health care providers and first responders should ensure they are up to date with tetanus vaccinations:

- Tetanus booster is recommended if no documentation of a booster during the past 10 years
- Booster can be either Td (tetanus/diphtheria) or Tdap (tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis)

Individuals who receive a puncture wound or a wound contaminated with feces, soil, or saliva, should have a doctor or health department determine whether a tetanus booster is necessary based on individual records.

The following vaccinations are **NOT** routinely recommended as a protection during flood response/recovery:

- Hepatitis A
- Typhoid
- Cholera
- Meningococcal
- Rabies

Outbreaks of communicable diseases after floods are unusual, and it is rare to see an increase in new infectious diseases in the community after a flood. There can be an increase in cases of diseases that were present in the community prior to a flood because of flood-related sanitation problems or overcrowding among displaced persons.